

**FIRST 5 KERN**  
**KERN COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, April 3, 2024  
1300 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 1A  
Bakersfield, California 93301

**MINUTES**

COMMISSION CONVENED @ 2:00 P.M. by Commissioner Wood

**Present Commissioners:** Morillo, Resendez, Sentes, Sill, Wood

**Absent Commissioners:** Carrigan, Murr, Peters

**County Counsel:** Anne Garza

**Consent Agenda:** Commissioner Wood presents Items # 9,10,11,14,15,16,17,18,20,21

**Item 19** – Removed from consent agenda

Motion: Morillo

Second: Sentes

Ayes: Resendez, Sentes, Sill, Wood

Noes: NONE

**1. Public Presentations:**

NONE

**2. Committee Members Announcements and Reports:**

NONE

*No action required*

**3. Technical Advisory Committee Report:**

Commissioner Wood reported that the Technical Advisory Committee convened on March 18, 2024. During the meeting, the Communications Manager, Kevin Bartl, delivered a presentation on the First 5 Kern Annual Communication Plan. The next meeting, scheduled for June 17, 2024, will include a review of the First 5 Kern website and consideration of the Public Health Community Needs Assessment.

*No action required.*

**4. Budget and Finance Committee Report:**

Commissioner Morillo reported that the Budget and Finance Committee convened on March 11, 2024, during which the Finance Director, Patti Taylor, delivered a presentation of an updated 5-year plan. Given the revenue implications of the flavor ban and depleted reserve account, the recommendation is to implement a 35% reduction in funding for Focus Areas 1, 2, and 3 for the funding cycle FY2025-2028.

*No action required.*

**5. Executive Director's Report:**

Amy Travis announced the initiation of a Request for Quotations (RFQ) aimed at reducing overhead costs of evaluation services, with a maximum contract award set at \$75,000. Additionally, she mentioned that Assemblymember Gail Pellerin is championing efforts within the State Legislature to secure a one-time \$100,000,000 general fund budget request.

**6. Communications and Policy Update:**

- Kevin Bartl shared information from the Annual Advocacy Day event hosted by First 5 California in Sacramento, CA.

**Policy Updates:**

- Assembly Bill 2892, known as the Bright Beginnings Act and led by Assemblymember Reyes, proposes a 12-member committee to address early childhood policies statewide, highlighting First 5's importance.
- Assembly Bill 2828, reintroduced by Assemblymember Jasmine Banes, aims to address funding disparities among counties by introducing Kid Friendly license plates. This bill seeks to rectify the imbalance in fund distribution among counties, as evidenced by only 7 out of 58 counties receiving funds previously.
- On February 2, 2024, Proposition 1 passed after clearing the committee despite failing in 41 of the 58 counties. Consequently, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) dollars will be redirected to homeless mitigation efforts, which could impact programs like Help Me Grow Kern County, which are currently funded by MHSA dollars.

**7. First 5 California Annual Report FY 2022-23: OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING; ALLOWED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND TESTIMONY; CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING – RECEIVED AND FILED.**

Public Comment – NONE

Motion: Morillo

Second: Sentes

Ayes: Resendez, Sill, Wood

Noes: NONE

**8. Conflict of Interest Code Revision: OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING; ALLOWED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND TESTIMONY; CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING.**

Public Comment – NONE

Motion: Resendez

Second: Sentes

Ayes: Morillo, Sill, Wood

Noes: NONE

**9. Minutes of the Project Review Committee of February 2, 2024:**

*Consent Agenda*

**10. Minutes of the Kern County Children and Families Commission Meeting of February 7, 2024:**

*Consent Agenda*

**11. Minutes of the Budget and Finance Meeting of March 11, 2024:**

*Consent Agenda*

**12. Revisions to the Administrative Policy 11 – Procurement Policy:**

Motion: Morillo

Second: Sentes

Ayes: Resendez, Sill, Wood

Noes: NONE

**13. Revisions to the Administrative Policy 12 – Records Retention and Disposition of Commission Records:**

Motion: Sentes

Second: Sill

Ayes: Morillo, Resendez, Wood

Noes: NONE

**14. Monthly Financial Reports for January 2024 and February 2024:**

*Consent Agenda*

**15. Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes March 18, 2024:**

*Consent Agenda*

**16. Agreement between Applied Survey Research and First 5 Kern Funded Through Kern Health Systems Grant:**

*Consent Agenda*

**17. Letter from Brown Armstrong, dated March 18, 2024, re: Letter of Engagement:**

*Consent Agenda*

**18. Letter from the Richland School District officially changing the name of Shafter Healthy Start to Shafter Family Resource Center:**

*Consent Agenda*

**19. Report on Help Me Grow Kern County, Program, Fiscal and Client Summary FY2020-2023:**

Commissioner Wood requested a follow-up presentation on Help Me Grow Kern County to learn more about program services and outcomes.

Motion: Resendez

Second: Sentes

Ayes: Morillo, Wood

Noes: NONE

Abstain: Sill

**20. Report on Expenditures under the Policy on Support of Community Activities and Events (Oasis Family Resource Center):**

*Consent Agenda*

**21. Report on Expenditures under the Policy on Support of Community Activities and Events (Black Infant Maternal Health Initiative):**

*Consent Agenda*

**Adjournment:**

Motion: Sill

Second: Morillo

Ayes: Resendez, Sentes, Wood

Noes: NONE

Adjourned at 2:43 P.M.